

THE ECHO

HALIBURTON COUNTY

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2008

www.haliburtonecho.ca

Vol. 125 No. 52 \$1.25 INCL. GST

Dave Burton is new county warden

CHAD INGRAM

Staff Reporter

Haliburton County has a new warden.

Highlands East Reeve Dave Burton was inaugurated as the county's warden for 2009 at a ceremony in the county council chambers on December 16.

Burton was nominated for the position by Algonquin Highlands Deputy-reeve Tom Gardner, who described Burton as "easy to work with."

The nomination was seconded by Minden Hills Deputy-reeve Cheryl Murdoch.

"I know Dave can do this for us," Murdoch said. "You have to really care. If you're going to do the job right, you've got to get around to see all the people."

No other nominations were made and Burton took the position by acclamation.

After reciting the warden's oath of office, he took the podium to give a short acceptance speech.

"I won't let you down," Burton told the room, which included dozens of guests.

Burton said among his priorities for the upcoming year would be updating the county's official plan, pursuing environmentally

See **Warden** page 9



MATT JAMES/Echo

That's right! Only two more days till Christmas!

Kindergarten students Emma Tidey covers her eye while Dante Wilson holds up two fingers in Stuart Baker Elementary School's annual Christmas concert on December 18. Students from Kindergarten to Grade 3 displayed their talents with a little help from their teachers. For more Christmas concert capers turn to page 23.

Toronto to discover Haliburton is one of a kind

JENN WATT

Staff Reporter

Local artists Sandi Luck and Charles O'Neil are two of the 24 artists from Eastern Ontario chosen to attend the Spring 2009 One of a Kind show in Toronto.

The artists are being sponsored by the federal government.

MP Barry Devolin recognized the two Haliburton artists for

their unique products at Heritage House Café Thursday afternoon during an announcement of the \$125,000 project.

"As an MP ... I appreciate the special flavour artists and artisans [bring] to this community," Devolin said.

Funding for the 24 artists, along with market readiness workshops, was a project that originated in Haliburton with the Haliburton County Devel-

opment Corporation. Jim Blake, community economic development co-ordinator, along with HCDC vice-chairperson Barb Bolin, conceived of a program that would make a special place for Eastern Ontario artists at the One of a Kind show.

"It's a wonderful opportunity for people to take the next leap in their work," Bolin said at Heritage House Café.

She thanked the federal gov-

ernment for the money and Blake for being the "perfect stick handler" on the project.

The two said they wanted to create an export market for Haliburton, and Eastern Ontario, art and this is just the beginning of a concerted effort.

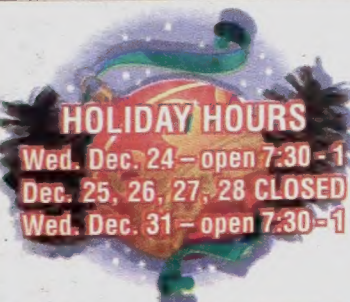
At the show there will be a designated section for Eastern Ontario that shoppers can wan-

See **One of a Kind** page 10

MERRY CHRISTMAS
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JENN WATT/Echo



An OPP cruiser full of food arrives at the 4Cs food bank Thursday afternoon after officers collected donations outside Haliburton Foodland and Todd's Independent. 4Cs volunteer Murray Tripp, left, comes out to collect the food from auxiliary officer Dick Schell and Constable Mark McMaster. This is the seventh year of the Fill a Cruiser campaign and the officers estimated they collected more than 250 bags of food in Haliburton alone.

Propane torch costly way to thaw pipes

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

An Eagle Lake cottager discovered the \$10,000 way to thaw out frozen water pipes.

On Saturday, December 13, he used a propane torch to heat up the pipes under his sink. Problem was that the torch's flame made the wall behind the pipes catch on fire and because he had no water with which to put out the fire – his pipes were frozen, after all – he had to call the Dysart fire department for help.

Nine firefighters responded and, while they were waiting to make sure all of the fire was out, water started gushing out of the pipes.

There was \$10,000 in damages as a result of the fire, smoke and water.

RIDE stop leads to charges

Officers from the Haliburton Highlands OPP detachment have charged a driver as a result of a R.I.D.E. program Thursday night in Haliburton.

The officers stopped the vehicle shortly before 10:30 p.m. at the intersection of County Rd. 21 and County Rd. 1. The officers talked with the driver who was subsequently arrested and taken to the detachment.

The 34-year-old driver, a male Haliburton resident, has been charged with Impaired Driving, Driving Over 80mgs, Possession of Marijuana and Possession of a Schedule II drug (marijuana) for the Purpose of Trafficking.

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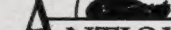
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Come Home for Christmas!

NATIVITY OF THE LORD
(CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS)

5:30 pm, Wednesday, December 24
Carol Sing

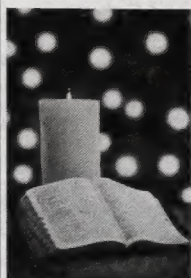
6:00 pm, Wednesday, December 24
Solemn Mass of Christmas

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS

7:00 pm - Saturday, December 27
8:15 pm - Sunday, December 28

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD
(NEW YEAR'S DAY)

5:00 pm, Wednesday, December 31



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Catholic Church

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Father Richard Starks

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AND HAPPY NEW YEAR



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Taiwanese student embraces Christmas in the snow

MATT JAMES

Staff Reporter

The last time we spoke to Taiwanese Rotary exchange student Cindy Chou, she was telling former *Echo* reporter Greg Hoekstra that she'd never seen snow before. Welcome to winter in Haliburton County, Cindy.

It was early November when she saw her first snowfall. At 10 past seven in the morning, Cindy remembers her host mother Traci Hubbert calling out, "Cindy, it's snowing!" It was still dark outside but as Cindy peered out the window she soon saw the gigantic snowflakes.

Cindy left her home in bustling Taipei City, and its population of three million people, in mid-August when the humidity is really high. Since arriving in Haliburton for her year on exchange Cindy, has experienced what are arguably Canada's two best seasons, summer and fall.

Now she gets to experience a Canadian winter, in addition to a little holiday we like to celebrate, Christmas.

The Taiwanese do not officially celebrate Christmas, partly because December 25 is the date that the Constitution of the Republic of China was signed in 1947, now known as Constitution Day. However, in December the famous Taipei 101 building is lit up with green and red Christmas lights.

"In Taiwan, Christmas is a kind of day where we give presents to classmates," Cindy says. But then it's right back to business.

All Cindy knows about Christmas is what she's seen in the movies or on TV. "And now I'm going to experience Christmas for myself and I'm pretty excited," she said.

On November 9 Cindy moved from the Hubbert house to the Espie residence in Eagle Lake where she'll celebrate a warm, homey, and somewhat traditional Christmas consisting of visiting relatives and the holiday feast. On Christmas morning, she'll dig through her very own stocking — a stocking on loan from Madison Espie who is currently on her own year-long Rotary exchange in Turkey.

Cindy is also amazed there's a real tree inside the Espies' living room.

She says living at the Espies' is much like living at home in Taiwan where she shares a cozy apartment with her mom, dad, 21-year-old sister, and two dogs.

When the *Echo* first spoke to Cindy more than three months ago, she talked about how laid back the people of Haliburton County were compared to those in Taipei City, where every square kilometre of land is occupied by



MATT JAMES/ECHO

Cindy Chou holds her first Canadian Christmas stocking, one of the Christmas traditions that her host sister, Katelyn Espie, is sharing with the Taiwanese exchange student at the Espies' Eagle Lake home. To Cindy's delight that's also a real Christmas tree.

10,000 people. She also felt guilty for not always being as busy as she was back home.

Slowly but surely she's coming to the dark side.

"I'm getting used to just sitting there or giving myself a rest," she said.

At Haliburton Highlands Secondary School, where Cindy takes Grade 12 classes, things are also improving since her last interview. You wouldn't know by hearing her talk that she still struggles to understand English. However, context was giving her a hard time.

"I'm getting used to not understanding what teachers are talking about," she laughs.

Cindy feels she's able to communicate better than before, which makes it easier to have a social life. When she first arrived it was difficult to keep up with the conversations of other students because they spoke so fast. And she didn't want to interrupt to ask for clarification.

"Now I stop and talk to people in the halls," she said.

This past weekend Cindy accomplished another winter activity — she hit the slopes at Sir Sam's. "It was fun. Sometimes I can make five turns and fall down and sometimes only two, but I'm getting better."

Her words are a testament to her personality and a sign she isn't likely to fail at anything she puts her mind to.

Second-hand store shares goodwill with youth group

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

With the 4Cs bursting at the seams with food and clothing donations, there simply isn't the room to accommodate all those household items that people no longer need but are too good to be thrown in the garbage.

All too often the 4Cs has to take items that people have dropped off to the dump. And yet there is a need for a place where people can buy inexpensive used items.

Ted Scholtes has come up with what he calls a win-win situation for everyone.

He's building an 8,000-square-foot facility in Haliburton's industrial park which will house a used goods store like Goodwill. And the money raised will go towards Youth Unlimited, a youth group that will also find a home in the new building.

"People can make a wee detour on their way to the dump and get rid of stuff that shouldn't go into the landfill," he says of his choice of location.

Last year, Scholtes had a re-sale business on York Street

but he closed that when he came up with the plan for the larger building. He'd hoped it would be open this fall but of course things take longer than expected. Now he's hoping for a spring opening and already has lots of stock. "I have stuff in barns all over the place," he laughs.

It will work this way: people will donate resaleable items to the store (which has yet to have a name.) Those items will be sold and the profits will be donated to Youth Unlimited as well as, Scholtes hopes, other local charities. "I know it's a good business," he says, "and in harder times, the better the business."

Kidd's *Twinkle Patrol* 27 years in the making

Gord Kidd is best known in Haliburton for testing hearing and fitting hearing aids. He's also known as a consummate entertainer, playing his guitar and singing in various bands, including Kidd Kountry, throughout the Highlands. (He and the band 50/50 will be playing in the new year at Minden Hills's big community bash on December 31.) Theatre lovers will also recognize him for his stage roles, including Pedro in the *Man of La Mancha*.

So when did Kidd have time to write a children's book, *The Twinkle Patrol*?

"Well," he says, "the book was actually written 27 years ago."

He'd written and performed a play called *Efil* (life spelled backwards) for a youth group in Port Hope to help young people work their way through the maze of challenges that parents sometimes forget their children are experiencing.

A film producer associated with CBC asked him to expand the play into a manuscript but Kidd balked when a number of changes were requested.

"I was so naïve," Kidd says today. "Lacking in the understanding of the world of production, I refused to change what I had written."

Not only was the production instantly dropped but Kidd earned a reputation of being "difficult to deal with." The agent who'd helped him work with the producers was livid. "Do you know how many people submit to these production companies? You are an unknown - this was your break as a writer? What's wrong with you?"

The agent also dumped him.

Why did it take 27 years to be published? "If I was to go through the comedy of errors in my life, if I could, as the song says, 'Know then what I know now,' it would have been published decades ago."

The book was copyrighted in 1982 but the artist he'd hoped to illustrate the book wasn't able to do all the drawings for health reasons. There were a number of

chapters so Kidd decided to take the page that had already been done, page one, and make a poster book. It was a unique concept. Children would unfold the book and it would become a poster they could put on their wall.

"When you take small print and enlarge it to eight feet by four feet, the ink can bleed and the letters will run together. One of the words on the book had letters that, when they ran together, made another word that was a profanity. A parent group happened to notice them at a library where the book was displayed and within a month all the poster books were pulled from libraries and schools. The *Twinkle Patrol* was grounded.

The noted author Margaret Laurence had seen the poster book and wrote about it favourably to Kidd. Kidd's lawyer felt he should send her a thank-you card as her words carried weight in Canada's publishing world.

"Being rather impulsive in those days, I rushed to a store, saw a card with 'Thank you, thank you, thank you' in large print," he recalls. "I quickly opened the card, signed it and added 'Wow - can I please quote you on my book promotion? You could really open doors for me.'"

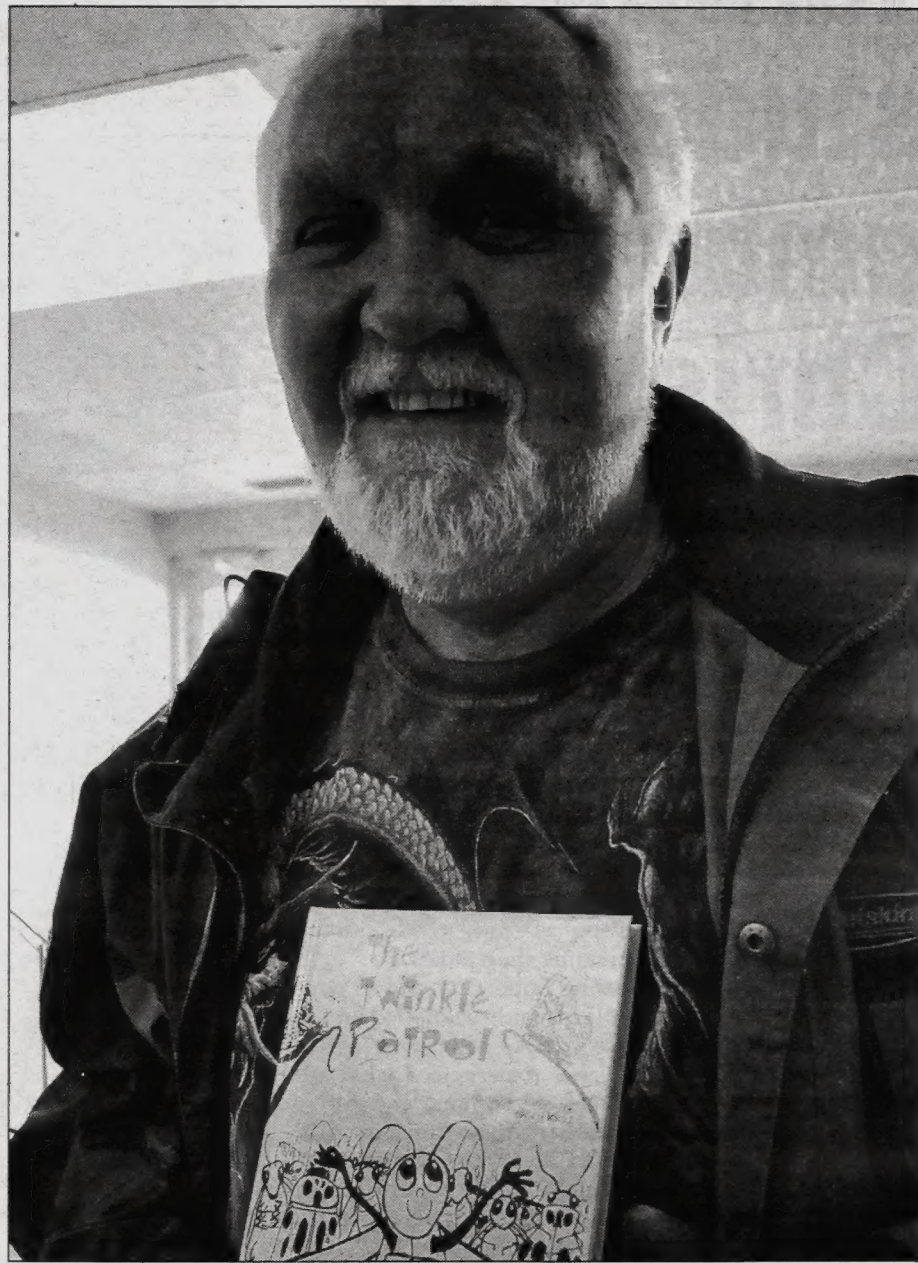
A few days later his lawyer summoned Kidd to his office. "What's wrong with you," the lawyer demanded.

"What? What did I do," Kidd responded, perplexed by his lawyer's anger.

The lawyer answered, "You sent Margaret Laurence - Margaret Laurence - a card that you send to people who have attended a funeral. You thanked her for her sympathy in your time of need!"

Yet, many years later, Kidd still cherishes a type-written letter that Laurence sent to him. She doesn't mention the faux pas over the card but she does say that "All writers are on their own" and tells him that she doesn't endorse books.

After so many setbacks, Kidd put his play, *Efil*, and *The Twinkle Patrol* in the



CHAD INGRAM/ECHO

Twenty-seven years after it was written, Gord Kidd has published his children's book, *The Twinkle Patrol*. It is on sale in Haliburton, Minden and Wilberforce.

back of a drawer. But he never forgot they were there. In 2007, one of his clients, Connie Neil, read the manuscript and encouraged him to do his own illustrations so the book could be published. It was just

the push Kidd needed.

The Twinkle Patrol is now available in local bookstores in Haliburton and Minden, and at Agnew's General Store in Wilberforce.

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Saturday, September 13th, 2008

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Name of person submitting photos: _____

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California musician pays musical tribute to the Highlands

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

Oh, there's no place like home for the holidays – especially when that home is the magical place inside your heart where childhood memories are stored.

When Edgar Thatcher was four, his family came to Esson Lake for a summer holiday. He loved it so much he's made sure that it's been a part of his life ever since.

Six years ago, he and his wife bought a cottage on the lake. It's a bit of a commute from their home in Los Angeles but its almost like a magnetic pull keeps drawing them back, even when it means spending two hours a day shoveling snow.

"I think it's about the warmth of the memory you have as a child," Thatcher says, a week before he hosts a musical evening in Wilberforce as his gift to the community that's always made him feel so at home. This "rooted memory," he says, "gives you a level of comfort that maybe people are not even aware of."

During that first family visit in 1964, his older brother was stung by a bee and had a severe allergic reaction. His parents didn't know what to do so they drove to the Red Cross Outpost Hospital in Wilberforce. The hospital was officially closed but the nurse who staffed it still lived in the village and she gave Thatcher's brother a shot of adrenaline. That needle saved his life.

That's why the proceeds from the December 27th Home to the Highlands concert will be split between the Wilberforce Heritage Guild, which runs the old outpost hospital as a museum, and the Essonville Church, the quaint pioneer church just up the road from Esson Lake.

Thatcher is a musician and actor. The concert brings together some of his friends as well as local talent (including Stan Riley in a theatrical performance and Ernie Dumuth and Bethany Houghton doing a Celtic turn.)

"It's everything from traditional holiday songs to Neil Young to some original songs to Supertramp," he says.

MARTHA PERKINS/Echo



Professional musician Edgar Thatcher left his home in California to spend Christmas in Haliburton County. On Saturday, December 27, he's giving a gift to his home away from home – a fundraising concert for the Essonville Church and Wilberforce Heritage Guild.

One of the songs Thatcher will perform is his tribute to Haliburton – Home to the Highlands – which is featured regularly on 100.9 Canoe FM. He'll be joined by his "posse," Doug Reansbury of Kingston and Jamie Campbell of Perth, as the house band. Other performers include the father and duo Paul and Laura Thompson of Brampton.

Roxanne Casey of Canoe FM will MC the evening, a non-alcohol family event with lots of homebaked treats.

Tickets are available at Agnew's Store and Canoe FM in Haliburton or at the door. Doors open at the Lloyd Watson Centre at 7; the show is from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m.

Moose FM tunes into community spirit

JENN WATT

Staff Reporter

Moose FM's third annual radiothon for the 4Cs and Minden food bank raised \$12,325 this year.

Although the overall donation was less than last year, program director Ryan Griffiths said there were more individual donations.

Griffiths said that Moose FM is very happy with the response to this year's fundraiser and thinks the smaller amount might be because of the difficult economy. "This community rallies around each other," he said.

For two days, on December 11 and 12, hosts Rick Lowe and Griffiths did 12-hour-long programs to raise the money. There was an open house at the station as well with hot chocolate and treats. "It makes for a long day," Griffiths said, "but it's a fun-loving time."

Moose FM would like to thank everyone who donated and gives a special thanks to the 4Cs and Minden food bank volunteers who do the tireless work of providing essentials to people in need all year round.

Haliburton Family Medical Centre



December 24 ~ Closed

December 25 ~ Closed

December 26 ~ Closed

December 29 ~ 8:30am-4:30pm

December 30 ~ 8:30am-4:30pm

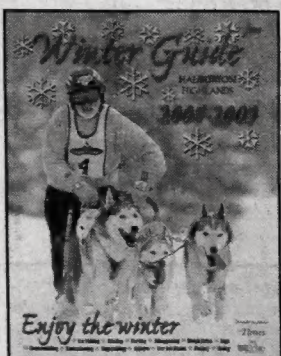
December 31 ~ 8:30am-12pm

January 1 ~ Closed

January 2 ~ Walk-in Clinic 9am-12pm

The 2008-2009 Winter Guide

is here



Find out about all the winter events in our county

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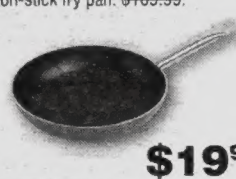
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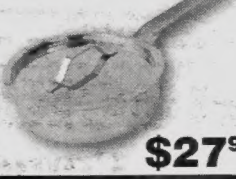
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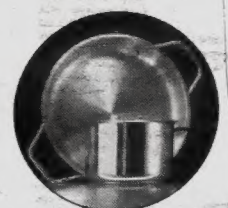
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Good news for taxpayers

At last week's county council meeting, municipal politicians heard some good news about the Highlands economy – it's very unlikely that local property owners will see an increase in the county portion of their 2009 property taxes.

Although the county's budget will increase by \$150,000 – to \$10,240,000 – most of those increases will be offset by other sources of funding. Most notable is the \$1 million the county received to bring high-speed Internet service to 5,000 households over the next three years. That money came from the federal government.

echo

editorial

martha perkins

Last year the county benefited from a huge infusion of infrastructure funding from the provincial government which allowed it to complete many more projects than expected.

The county's treasurer, Laura Janke, is crediting another source of wise fiscal management for the good news for county taxpayers. Prudent behaviour by all departments will likely result in a small surplus. That, along with healthy attention to reserve funds over the past few years, put the county in a strong position leading into 2009.

"I want to make sure everybody knows it's a good-news story for taxpayers," Janke told county councillors. Of course, there might be a few taxpayers who will want the county to cut spending and reduce the taxes it must collect as a way of responding to market conditions. The former township of Snowdon tried that several years ago – it actually gave ratepayers a rebate. It was short-term gain followed by long-term pain because the money wasn't invested in infrastructure or services.

Even when the economy is in a recession, it's important that municipal governments keep spending, not simply because spending creates jobs, but because if you don't, you find yourself having to play catch-up later on. If the county doesn't keep its infrastructure in good shape – if road needs are ignored or repairs aren't done or old equipment isn't replaced – it's not that those needs go away. Instead, the roads deteriorate even more, and are more expensive to fix, old equipment breaks down at inopportune times and the repairs are still staring you in the face when the dark cloud of the recession lifts.

It will be interesting to see what transpires when the federal government releases its budget next month. If there are new funding announcements, most that affect Haliburton County might be paired with more provincial and local spending. Will councils be tempted to spend more than they have? Will the offers of infrastructure funding be too good to pass up? Will any increase in taxes have a detrimental impact on cottage sales? Everyone will be performing a balancing act over the next year – balancing the restraints on income with the need to continue spending. But balance is the key word. The main thing everyone must do right now is avoid panicking about the future and making rash decisions. Our decisions have the ability to become self-fulfilling prophecies.

It seems that the county has its finances in order, a good start for what may be a bad year.



Ho ho ho

Photo by Matt James

Tall buildings

THE SKYSCRAPER WAS BORN in New York City. In my childhood, the Empire State Building was as famous as Superman. It stood for the wonders of the modern world. But back in the day, there was a reason for this skyward expansion: Manhattan, a smallish island, had nowhere else to go but up and in so doing, set a standard for all modern cities to follow.

Chicago, a city that could and does spread out forever, keeps one-upping New York with taller and taller buildings. Toronto, to prove its world-classness, started sticking semi-scrappers into position back in the early '60s with the TD Centre poking a breathtaking 54 stories into the Toronto sky. The rest of the banks followed suit with taller and taller edifices except the classy Royal Bank which stayed low, but added pure gold to its glass covering. I think the Bank of Montreal is now the tallest building in the city, putting the city of Montreal's tallest building in Toronto.

Tragically, these tall buildings are filled up by commuting office-workers who pour into these stacked cities by the million on daily basis, filling the already over-heated atmosphere with more junk. With the advent of the personal computer, the Internet and intranets, it is no longer necessary for employees to go to work. Work can easily go to them, thus saving the planet from a daily barrage of carbon dioxide. And, happily, there is now a very planet-healthy use for all of those skyscrapers, which should become empty once our community planners come to their senses. These tall buildings will become the new farmland. Yes. Vertical farming will soon become a reality. In fact, by 2050, it will become a necessity, what with our exponentially exploding population. Indoor farming is not new. Hothouse produc-

tion of tomatoes and herbs and other produce has been going on for some time now, just to mention a few of its legal implementations. Vertical farms reaching into the sky will in fact be saviours of our ecosystem, much of which is now being turned into desert due to over farming. Buying locally-grown produce will be automatic since a vertical farm can be built anywhere.

Some of the advantages: year-round crop production with one indoor acre the equivalent to four to six outdoor acres; no weather-related failures due to drought, floods or pests; all foods are organically grown; black and gray water will be returned to potable by a phenomenon called evapotranspiration (which my computer dictionary has not heard of yet). But the biggest advantage is the possibility of putting an end to world hunger. Food will be available just about everywhere, which should make for much happier people and fewer reasons for folks to continue warring over land. (Warlords notwithstanding.) Also, with

plenty of land-produced food to go around, maybe we could put a moratorium on cleaning out our oceans of every living creature (which we are currently close to completing) and let the sea replenish its bounty once more.

Do we have the intelligence to accomplish something this sensible? Are Japan and China going to stop killing sharks for something as dumb as shark-fin soup? Are Chinese males going to stop believing that a rhino horn is going to make them into real men? Are the Japanese (who should know better) going to stop slaughtering whales? Can the world finally put a stop to fueling itself with oil, since there are so many other real options? My son (24) says it's all going to happen as soon as his generation can get its hands on power. More power to them.



ross
jarvis

two-eight-six

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A thing or two about Christmas

THERE ARE WONDERFUL THINGS about the Christmas season.

I'm sure there are wonderful things about Hanukkah, but I've always been told to write about what I know.

After all these years, I think I finally know Christmas.

Christmas is a day that is liable to start any time after the stroke of midnight, depending on how excited your children are.

Visions of sugarplums do not dance in their heads on the night before, by the way.

That happens only in really old poetry.

Most children and adults don't even know what sugarplums are anymore.

Don't try looking it up on the Internet either.

I'm guessing that this is probably fraught with danger.

And forget that old line that not a creature was stirring.

If you have pets like we do, believe me, they're stirring.

The cats are climbing the Christmas tree and the dogs are circling beneath them, quite possibly bawling in excitement – it's the one time of year that they can tree an animal inside the house.

And, as such, they enjoy it too.

Speaking of your tree, it will be adorned with less tinsel each and every morning it is up.

Your cat's litter box, on the other hand, will experience just the opposite.

And, just so you know, we stopped putting tinsel on our tree years ago, but they still manage to find some.

It's a special Christmas gift that felines have.

Decorating the tree, of course, is fun.

Right up until it's time to place the star atop the tree, just out of a normal person's reach.

Then as you reluctantly pass it to your wife who can easily reach the top of the tree because she has long arms and, at five-foot-nine would be considered a giant in some parts of the world, you mumble something like, "Bumbles bounce" perhaps a bit too loud, and the kids laugh.

And so you drink your eggnog alone yet again.

Placing gifts under the tree is also a lot of fun.

But if you have any testosterone in your system at all, wrapping them is not.

If you watch me or most other men wrapping gifts from a distance, you might think we are in a no-holds-barred wrestling match with the roll of wrapping paper.

In the end, the gift will be wrapped poorly but it will also remain attached to us at several key points.

Eventually, we'll get a feminine member of the family to do it right. But by then we will have no hair on our forearms from the tape removal.

And don't even get me started on Christmas lights. Anything that involves frigid weather, aluminum ladders set on slippery surfaces, and electricity should not even be legal.

I don't mind making snow angels, I just want to do it face up, that's all.

Of course, all these things don't really matter in the big scheme of things.

What does matter is the warm feeling that comes over you as you remember the true meaning of Christmas – the birth of a Child, redemption for us all, and the chance to spend meaningful moments with friends and family.

Last night, I sat on a couch with my youngest daughter as she knitted Christmas gifts. My job was to protect the wool from the cats, who took a welcome break from climbing the tree. My wife relaxed on the next chair as we listened to fine Christmas music on the radio.

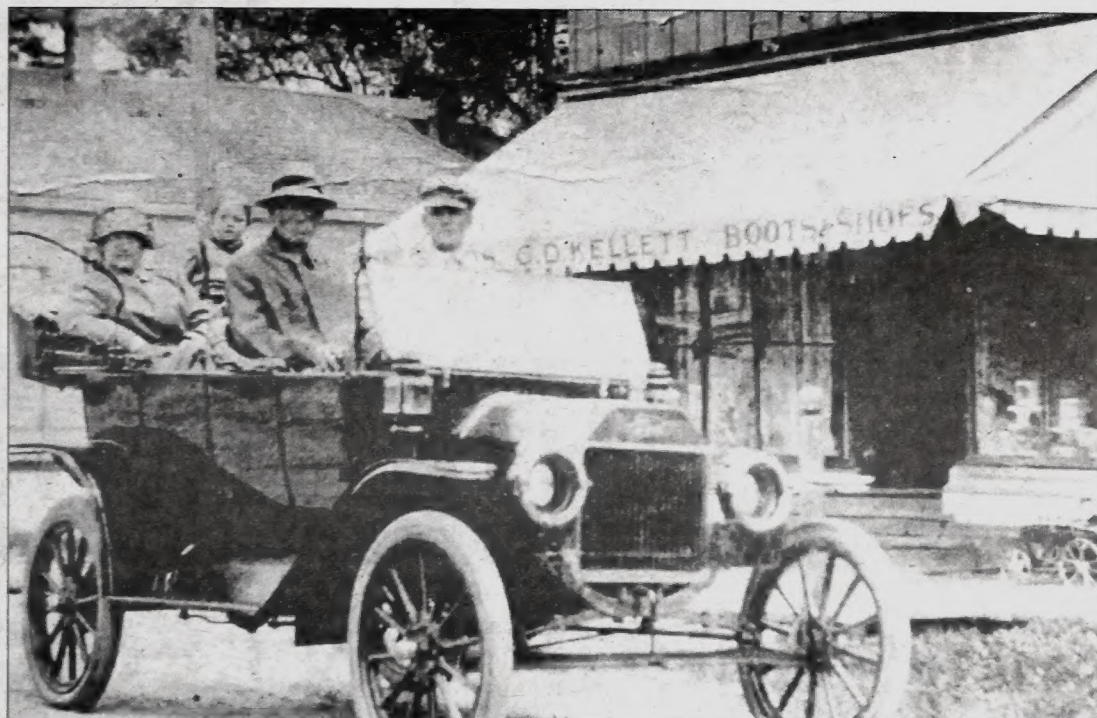
Basking in the comforting heat of the old box stove with no place to go for a day or two, it finally felt like Christmas was here. I'm looking forward to visiting those I love most. And giving gifts too.

I wonder if anyone wants a cat.... Merry Christmas.



steve
galea

Vinegar Hill



pic of the past

Charlie Douglas Kellett (1877-1926) was the owner of Haliburton's first automobile, a 1912 Model T Ford. He is shown at the wheel of his cherished car in 1913 with his father Douglas (Duke) Kellett. Charlie's wife Hattie rides in the back with their 5-year-old nephew Glenn Austin. Taken in front of Kellett's store (southwest corner of Highland and Maple) Dover's store/Haliburton post office is in the background.

This photo along with many others can be found in the book *Haliburton: A History in Pictures*.

Do you have a historical photo from Haliburton's past? We'd love to share it with the community. Call 457-1037, email editor@haliburtonecho.ca or bring it to our office at 146 Highland Street.

letters to the editor

Conservatives' real agenda hidden in last election

To the Editor:

In a recent article in the *Echo*, MP Barry Devolin talked about the threatened confidence vote against his Conservative Party by the opposition. He said that the introduction of three measures into the financial update statement was a miscalculation, but he supported all three.

Those items are: equal pay for work of equal value legislation, the right of federal civil servants to bargain (there is no bargaining power without the possibility of striking), and the removal of limited government funding for recognized political parties.

None of this was mentioned in the very recent election campaign because it is divisive, unfair, would have cost the Conservatives many votes and exposed the current Conservative Party for what it really is and has been trying to hide from voters for several years in the hope of gaining majority status.

Obviously, the miscalculation was that they failed to grasp that they did not get a majority government so they should have kept their real agenda hidden in the hopes of gaining it.

When the next election comes, voters will ask about these and other regressive positions Barry Devolin and his party don't volunteer until after we have voted.

Brad Colpitts
Vice-President

Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock Electoral
District Association

Nutcracker rivals big city productions

To the Editor:

I was very impressed with this year's production of *The Nutcracker*. Once again, Julie Barban gave the stage to a talented group of young dancers, including a set of exuberant children. The real treat this year was costuming. Dani Smolen designed an ensemble of dozens of gorgeous and dramatic costumes, ably sewn by Barb Fraser and her crew of volunteers, including Andrea Pawson, Kelly Harrison, and Jody Cook.

I've seen a fair bit of theatre in Toronto and New York and now Dani and her team are bringing those high standards to the Highlands.

Michael Fay
Minden

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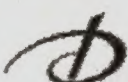
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Warden wants entire county up to speed

from page 9

responsible tourism development and continuing the expansion of broadband, high-speed Internet in the county.

"One hundred per cent conductivity is essential," he said.

The county recently received more than \$1 million from the province that will allow almost 5,000 homes in the county to be connected during the next three years.

Burton said he would also ensure that Haliburton County continues its efforts to be granted "northern status" - which makes it eligible for certain types of funding.

"I will not let our past efforts be set aside," he said.

Burton was congratulated by outgoing warden Eleanor Harrison, who presented him with the ceremonial warden's robe.

Harrison, who also serves as reeve of Algonquin Highlands township, will continue to sit as a county councillor.

Burton was presented with the ceremonial warden's medallion by county CAO Jim Wilson and congratulated by Ric McGee, mayor of the City of Kawartha Lakes, who called Burton "a great addition."

"I look forward to working with you," McGee said.

Burton oversaw his first meeting as warden on December 17.



CHAD INGRAM/ECHO

Outgoing warden Eleanor Harrison congratulated Highlands East Reeve Dave Burton on being chosen to head the county government by his fellow county councillors.

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Sharing the Christmas Spirit

Derek Beachli of the Haliburton HomeBuilders Association accepts two cheques from Hal Johnson on behalf of Royal LePage Lakes of Haliburton one for the Minden Food Bank and the other for Haliburton 4 C's, taken at their Christmas party held at Halimar Resort.



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Local artists Charles O'Neil and Sandi Luck were selected to represent Haliburton at the One of a Kind show in Toronto next spring.



JENN WATT/Echo

One of a Kind show an excellent showcase for artists

from page 1

der through designed like an old-time marketplace.

Those chosen came from a large region stretching from Lake Simcoe to the Ottawa River, Lake Ontario to Algonquin Park.

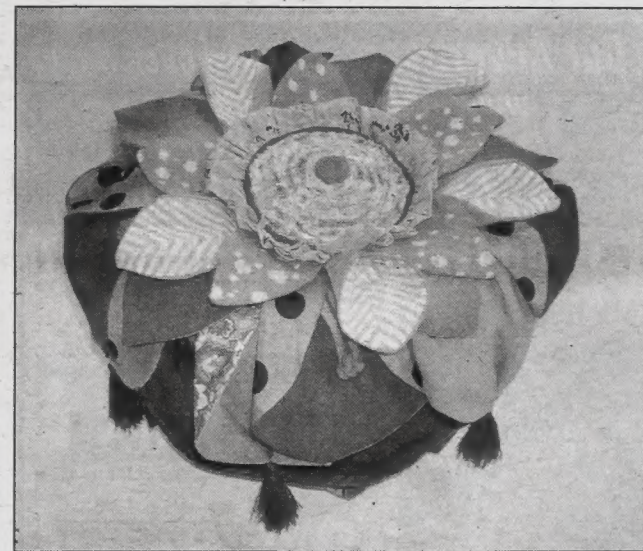
Luck was chosen for her "art to adorn the body and home," consisting of creative, colourful fabric assemblages, both to be hung on the wall like the traditional concept of art, as well as to decorate the home and self. She wore one of her pieces, a large fabric flower on her lapel, to the announcement.

O'Neil's art is metallic – sculptures of animals and humans made of copper and steel wire with coloured beads. He has studied art at the Haliburton School of the Arts and called it a place of "encouragement and inspiration" for him.

Both artists responded to a call for entries.

The One of a Kind show is entering its 35th year and has been running in Toronto, Vancouver, Chicago and New York.

According to Bolin, it is the "largest and best retail show" for artisans in Canada. Luck and O'Neil will be appearing in the Toronto show April 1 to 5 in the Direct Energy Centre.



Sandi Luck made this colourful tuffet stool with swatches of material.

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Six points and counting for Hodgson as Team Canada warms up for World Juniors

MATT JAMES

Staff Reporter

Haliburton native Cody Hodgson has already tallied two goals, six points and a player of the game award in Team Canada's two warm-up games in the 2009 IIHF World Junior championships.

On December 19 Toronto's Air Canada Centre housed 11,905 Canadian hockey fans as Team Canada faced Sweden in the first of three pre-competition games. And with less than five minutes after the opening faceoff, Hodgson set up John Tavares on a power play for the game's first goal.

Hodgson added to the lead, scoring at the 10-minute mark of the second for a 2-0 Canada lead. After taking a shot early in the third period, Hodgson earned his second assist when Zach Boychuk knocked in the rebound.

After 60 minutes Team Canada earned a 4-2 win and Hodgson was Canada's player of the game.

In game two Canada took on Finland on December 21 at the Hershey Centre, in Mississauga, in front of a signif-

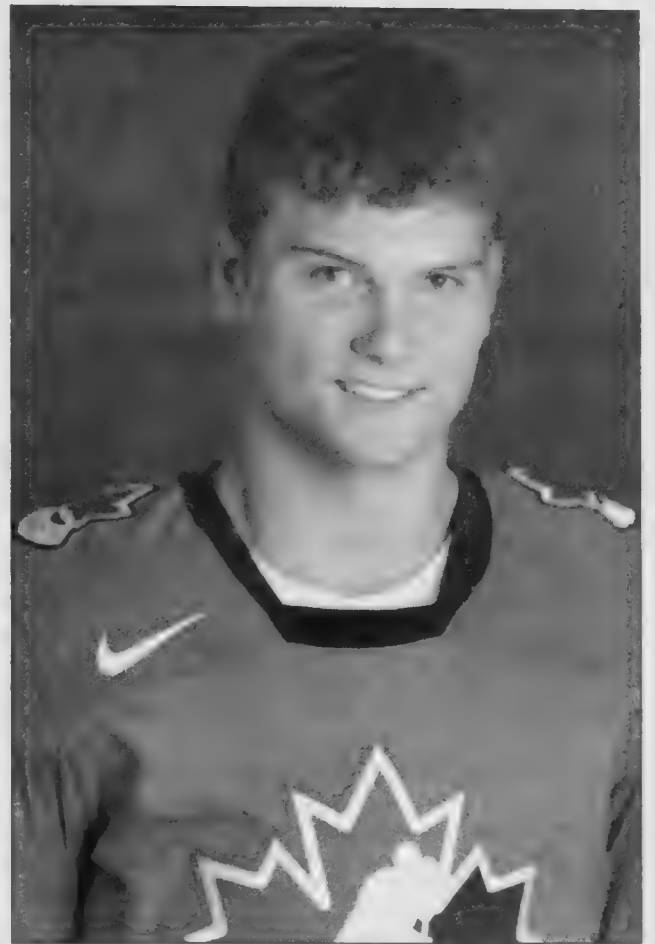
icantly smaller crowd of 5,509. However, the Canadians came out firing and defeated the Finns 7-3.

For the second straight game Hodgson recorded three points — a goal and two assists. His first assist, a beautiful cross-ice pass to Tyler Ennis, tied the game 1-1. Hodgson's lone goal midway through the second period tied the game 2-2, sweeping the puck into the net after Boychuk charged the net.

On a Canadian two-man advantage in the third period, Hodgson set up Tavares for Canada's fifth goal en route to the win.

When Team Canada announced the 2009 WJC roster on December 15, Hockey Canada said there was emphasis on defence. An eighth defenseman was added instead of the usual 13th forward. So far the tactic has worked. Canada's goaltenders have allowed only five goals against compared to the team's 11 goals. And while there is no tally on blocked shots, Canada has nearly doubled the competition thus far in shots on goal, 80-41.

Team Canada will look to go 3-0 to wrap up their pre-competition when they face Slovakia tonight in Hamilton. The game can be seen live on TSN at 7 p.m.



You can watch Haliburton-born Cody Hodgson play against Slovakia tonight on TSN.

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Drum roll, please: curling draw results are in

WENDY VERMEERSCH

Special to the Echo

The fall 2008 curling draws have ended and the results are as follows.

Monday Day Mixed – Draw Master Glen Smith

First – Skip Glen Carter, Vice Lorraine Virgin, Second Patrick Mitchell and Lead Louis Simon

Second – Skip Ken Wilson, Vice Joan Eyres, Second Glenda Wakely and Lead Ernie Ross

Third – Skip John Smillie, Vice Mary Lou Waggett, Second Luba Glachan and Lead Ann McIvor

Tuesday Ladies – Draw Master Pat Wright-Thorpe

Two teams tied for first

• Emily LaRue, skip, Peggy Sharp, vice, Mary Ann Hodgins, second and Rhonda Elstone lead

• Bev Martin, skip, Willie Cox, vice, Lolita Mitchell second, and Marilyn Bevan as lead

Third – Skip Doreen DeGrave, Vice Cheryl Smillie, Second Ann McIvor and Lead Karen Albert

Tuesday Night Mixed – Draw Master Gerald Taylor

First – Al Aubry, skip, Rick Ashall, vice, Wendy Aubry, second and lead Janet Ashall

Second – Bob MacNaull, skip, Ann McNaull, vice and Second Laraine Shine

Third – Jack Cox, skip, Pat Norman, vice, Irene Houtby, second and lead Janet Tice



Two teams tied as winners of the ladies curling draw at the Haliburton Curling Club. Kneeling are Mary Ann Hodgins and Lolita Mitchell. From left in the back row are Rhonda Elstone, Emily LaRue, Bev Martin, Willie Cox, and Marilyn Bevan. Missing is Peggy Sharp.

Wednesday Night Mixed – Draw Master John Smillie

First – Sandra Duchemin, skip, Dick Duchemin, vice, Garry Bradshaw, Second and lead Sylvia Bradshaw

Second – Dave Connell, Skip, Dave Moss, vice, Michelle Connelly, Second and lead Cathy Moss

Third – Bob Johnston, Skip, Candy Robinson, vice, Jim Pollard Second and lead Michele Wilson

Thursday Day Mixed – Draw Master

Ray Baker

First – John Raney, skip, John Glachan, vice, Jean McBain, second and Barrie Smith, lead

Second – Bruce Martin, skip, Brigitte Bassie, vice, Joan Hawley, second and Gary McDonald, lead

Third – Bill Woodley, skip, Joan Eyres, vice, Barb Foote, second and Anne Nickson, lead

Thursday Night – Draw Master Peter Byer

First – Terry Roach, skip, Andy Glecoff, vice, Jack Cox, second and lead Joe Zahn

Second – Don Wetmore, skip, Larry Holden, vice, Larry Grigg, second and lead Dave Allen

Third – Jeff Ainsley, skip, Bruce Bozec, vice, and Walter Tose as second

Friday Men's – Draw Master Brian Murison

First – Skip Moe Welch, vice Joe Sheri

dan, Second Bill Vermeersch and lead Mike Jaycock

Second – Peter Byer, skip, Brian Daoust, vice, second John MacDonald and lead Neil Oke

Senior Winter Games

Robert McIvor was the Senior Winter Games co-coordinator and this year's bonspiel took place at the Haliburton Curling Club on Wednesday Dec 17th.

The winners were the team of Skip John Smillie, Vice Case Bassie, second Cheryl Smillie and lead Brigitte Bassie. We wish this team well when they go to Brockville for the Ontario Senior Winter Games in February 2009.

The members of the Haliburton Curling Club wish all the residents and cottagers of Haliburton County a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.

The winter 2009 draw will begin Monday January 5. Good curling.

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Seniors' bonspiel

Members of the Haliburton Curling Club hosted the third semi-annual Ontario Senior Games District II mixed bonspiel on December 17. While the tournament is supposed to include players from both Haliburton and Muskoka counties, only Haliburton players were available, which made for less competition. The winner of the event qualified for the Ontario Senior Games Championships in Brockville in February: John and Cheryl Smillie and Case and Brigitte Bassie.

Below: Jack Cox eyes an incoming rock as Lorraine and Jack Virgin sweep.

Brigitte Bassie was part of the winning team who'll go to Brockville.

Jack Virgin shows his game face in the last of the three draws of the day.

Photos by Matt James



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Dispatches from Holyburton

On Christmas day at noon, 100.9 Canoe FM will be broadcasting an original radio play by Haliburton writer Jerelyn Craden.

Here's a synopsis: Maybelle Morton, a feisty lady hugging 80, delivers her homegrown radio show, Fireside Stories from Lake Whaddyathinklmean, (with remote hookup to Canoe Radio) from her hilltop cottage 40 kilometres from "Holyburton" as she calls it.

Each time she tries to tell her fireside story, she's interrupted by a knock at the door, banging on the roof, or a bear with a sweet tooth in her cookie jar. It's a wild and wacky array of unexpected visitors plus Maybelle's own unique musings that become the real stories from Lake Whaddyathinklmean. Stories full of humour, heart, and local charm. Photo by Martha Perkins

THE ECHO
HALIBURTON COUNTY

The Times
OF HALIBURTON COUNTY

Holiday Hours

Christmas Eve Day - Closing at noon
 Christmas Day - Closed
 Boxing Day - Closed
 New Years Eve Day - Closing at noon
 New Years Day - Closed

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Saturday, January 24
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 Minden Hills Township Office - 7 Milne St., Minden
 Minden Times Office - 2 IGA Rd., Minden
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Antipasto
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Soups
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 Potato & Leek

Salads
 Classic Caesar Salad
 Port Roasted Pear Salad with Roquefort & Hazelnuts
 Almond Crusted Chevre Salad with Pancetta & Dried Cranberries

Palate Refresher

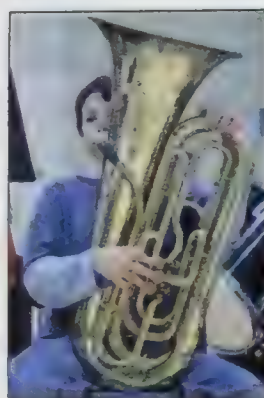
Entrées
 Veal Chop with Caramelized Onion & Stilton Sauce
 Rack of Venison with Sautéed Pears in a Dijon Port Reduction
 Sautéed Quails with Shitake Port Sauce
 Braised Sea Bass with Moroccan Spiced Sauce

Desserts
 Milk Chocolate Pyramid with White Chocolate Accent
 Fresh Ginger Crème Brûlée
 New York Style Cheesecake with Pure Maple Syrup

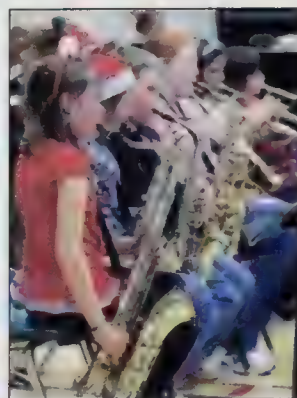
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\$85.00 per person
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Tom Paul toots his tuba.



Saxophone players Noelle Russell and her fellow Grade 6 band belt out Jingle Bells and Jolly Old St. Nicholas.



Shelby Richards plays the French horn with the Grade 8 band who kicked out Rudolph and Lean On Me.



For the **eleventh** year the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation decorates trees located in the front lobbies of the Health Care Facilities with tags sponsored by gifts from our generous supporters.

Help us reach our **\$95,000 Holiday Goal** to invest in the technology for Diagnostic Imaging.

As of December 19th, 2008, we have raised \$55,076.60 towards our goal. Thank you to the following generous businesses, groups and individuals;

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Michael & Kathy Bernardi

Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation sincerely thanks our Honourary Chairman for our 2008 "Reach For The Future" campaign, Dr. Steve Ferracuti and Dr. Dave Fiddler.

If you would like to help us "Reach For The Future" this Holiday Season, your gift can be sent to Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation, Box 1413, Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0 or Box 30, Minden, ON K0M 2K0, you can deposit your gift in the donations boxes at the Minden and Haliburton Facilities, or you can donate online at www.hhhs.on.ca/foundation.htm.



A Foundation For The Health Of The Highlands

HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS HEALTH SERVICES FOUNDATION

Friendly Christmas assembly

Photos by Matt James

Grade 5 to 8 students of J. Douglas Hodgson Elementary School performed a few Christmas tunes and an original rendition of *The 12 Days of Christmas* for the rest of the school and dozens of parents for the annual Christmas assembly on December 15.



From left to right are Grade 7 clarinet band members Daryl Woodley, Hannah Reddering, Julia Fedeski and Jamie Sheffel played *Let's Go* Band and *Ode To Joy* for students and parents in attendance.

DON'T DRINK & DRIVE

Don't ruin the holiday season in a moment of indulgence. Drunk driving collisions not only destroy & devastate the lives of victims & their families, but it will also ruin the life of an impaired driver.

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NOT SURE IF YOU'VE HAD TOO MUCH TO DRINK? THEN DON'T DRIVE!



With You in Mind at
Christmastime

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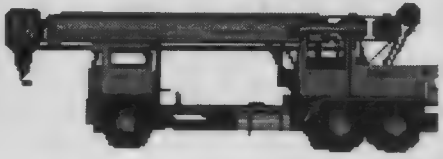


Don, Glenn, Eleanor, Judy, Julie,
Donna, Sara, Matt, Doug and Debbie

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Nutcracker dances again

Photos by Chad Ingram

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Jessica Bishop and Kirsty Cook put on a duet as Raggedy Ann and Raggedy Andy.



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Left, Tamara Poropot struts her stuff as a peacock.

Right, a group of toy soldiers march to war with the Mouse King.



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Municipality of Dysart et al

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NOTICE OF PROPOSED SALE OF MUNICIPAL LAND

TAKE NOTICE that the Corporation of the Municipality of Dysart et al, intends to pass a by-law to dispose of certain lands in the Township of Dysart, County of Haliburton, more particularly described in Schedule "A" hereto.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that the purpose and effect of the proposed by-law is to authorize the sale of said lands to the adjoining property owner.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that any person wishing to comment on the proposed sale should submit such comments in writing to the CAO/Clerk at the address set out below on or before the 7th day of January, 2009.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that the proposed by-law will come before the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Dysart et al, at its regular meeting to be held at the Council Chambers, 135 Maple Avenue, Haliburton, Ontario on the 12th day of January, 2009 at 9:30 a.m.

DATED at Haliburton and first published this 22nd day of December, 2008.

Tammy McKelvey, A.M.C.T.
CAO/Clerk
Municipality of Dysart et al
135 Maple Avenue, PO Box 389
Haliburton, ON. K0M 1S0
Tel: 705-457-1740 Fax: 705-457-1964
Email: tmckelvey@dysartetel.ca

SCHEDULE "A"

Lot 10, Plan 629, between 2053 and 2057 Fred Jones Road, Outlet Bay, Drag Lake.

West Guilford Baptist church hosts pre-Christmas dinner

community news

west guilford

Eleanor Cooper
764-2278

West Guilford's Baptist church hosted a pre-Christmas turkey dinner on St Nicholas Day. All food and preparation was donated and volunteered for the 61 people who enjoyed the festivity which included carol singing and special violin solos by Katrina, the granddaughter of Edith and Ralph Brinston. Dinners were also provided and distributed to various house-bound people.

The Rev. Bert Zavitz, his wife Stephanie and son Fraser can be justly proud of their first Christmas event here and the blessing it provided so happily to so many people. On December 16th the euchre party at

the centre saw Colleen and Cliff Davison each with the high score and Robert McIvor and Kirk Biljetina with low scores. Lone hands: Emile Duchene and Tina Hadley. No more euchre till January 6. Special tokens of black and white went to Bill Geddis, Dorothy Upton, Robert McIvor and Leon Jones.

Welcome to new neighbours along our road who are now in residence at Carol Duncan's house, Donna and Stewart.

The special Christmas service on December 21 at the Baptist Church here at West Guilford is 11 a.m.

An unexpected pleasure! On Saturday night a knock at the door announced a group of carollers - Pastor Bert Zavitz, Lois and daughters. Every one of them had a good voice and they sang us several carols before going to the Baptist Church for hot chocolate. We were their last port of call, and so happy to be included in their festive gift of singing.



NOTICE
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PLEASE BE VERY CAREFUL WHEN CLEARING YOUR DRIVEWAY, ENTRANCE AND MAIL BOX. BE SURE TO PLOW OR BLOW THE SNOW BACK AWAY FROM THE ROADWAY TO AVOID CREATING A HAZARD FOR THE TRAVELLING PUBLIC.

Doug Ray
Director of Public Works
Roads Department

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COUNTY OF HALIBURTON LAND DIVISION COMMITTEE

NOTICE OF APPLICATIONS FOR CONSENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 53(5)(a) of the *Planning Act* and Section 3, O.Reg. 197/96, as amended, that the following Applications for Consent have been submitted to the Haliburton County Land Division Committee, the consent granting authority in these matters.

AND FURTHER THAT at its meeting to be held Monday January 12, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Administration Building, County of Haliburton Office, 11 Newcastle Street, Minden, Ontario, these Applications for Consent will be heard by the Land Division Committee:

- File No. H-076/08
Applicant: Patricia NAYLOR
Location of the Property: Pt. Lot 31, Concession 15, Geographic Township of Glamorgan
Nature of the Application: Right-of-way
- File No. H-077/08
Applicant: David & Susan ANDERSON
Location of the Property: Pt. Lot 28, Concession 15, Geographic Township of Glamorgan
Nature of the Application: Right-of-way
- File No. H-078/08 to H-081/08
Applicant: GREIF BROS. CANADA INC.
Location of the Property: Lots 16 to 35, Concessions 1 to 4, Geographic Township of Harburn
Nature of the Application: Rights-of-way

Additional information regarding any of the above-noted applications is available for public inspection at the Land Division Office by appointment during regular business hours, Monday to Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

If a person or public body that files an appeal of a decision of the Land Division Committee in respect of the proposed consent does not make written submissions to the Land Division Committee before it gives or refuses to give a provisional consent, the Ontario Municipal Board may dismiss the appeal.

If you wish to be notified of the decision of the Land Division Committee in respect of the proposed consent, you must make a written request to the undersigned.

Dated at the Township of Minden Hills this 23rd day of December, 2008.

Jane M. Tousaw, A.M.C.T.
Director of Planning
County of Haliburton
11 Newcastle Street
P. O. 399
Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0
Telephone: (705) 286-1333, or
866-886-8815 ext. 222
Fax: (705) 286-4829
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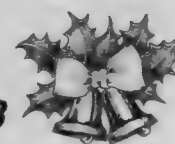


The Municipality of Dysart et al
Wishes you a Safe and Happy Holiday Season.

NOTICE:
Christmas Hours & Closures



Dysart et al Municipal Office
will be CLOSED from
Wednesday, December 24th, 2008
to



Friday, January 2nd, 2009

The office will re-open on Monday, January 5th @ 8:30 a.m.

Christmas Break Public Skating Hours at the Dysart Arena:

December 21 Noon ~ 1:15 p.m.
December 22, 23, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 1:00 ~ 3:00 p.m.
& January 2



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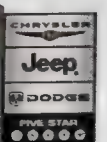
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Summer festival looking for a very special orphan Annie

The search has started for an orphan girl. She is about eleven years of age (could be a little older), has a pleasant disposition, likes dogs, sings and maybe does a little dancing. Her name is Annie.

Highlands Summer Festival and director Scot Denton are looking for a talented young girl to play the role of an orphan in this summer's production of *Annie*. "This is a great opportunity for a youngster, who has an interest in acting and singing, to land the role of a lifetime," Denton says. "We are looking for someone who is outgoing, confident, 'spunky' and is prepared to work hard over the next six months to take the lead in this production."

The musical *Annie* is based on the cartoon strip, *Little Orphan Annie*, which followed the adventures of a young girl searching for her parents. Filled with bouncy tunes and a great story, the musical received rave reviews when it opened on Broadway in 1977 and ran for almost six years. Auditions for *Annie* and the orphan girls (ranging in age from six to 13) will take place on January 17. Those not chosen for the role of Annie could be cast as one of the chorus of young girls at

the orphanage. Call-backs will be held on January 18. On the weekend of January 24 and 25, auditions will be held for other characters appearing in *Annie* including:

Oliver (Daddy) Warbucks: A billionaire who opens his home and heart to Annie

Miss Hannigan: The cantankerous and hilarious orphanage matron

Grace Farrell: Oliver Warbucks' faithful secretary

Rooster: Miss Hannigan's scheming brother

Lily St. Regis: Rooster's not-so-dumb, blonde accomplice

President Franklin D. Roosevelt: President who aids Warbucks in his search

Bert Healey: Radio announcer who broadcasts Annie's search for her parents.

The Boylyn Sisters: Singers on Bert Healey's radio show

And many other cameo roles, various ages, both genders

Those attending the audition should come prepared to sing one verse or 16 bars of a song from musical theatre production other than *Annie*. Callbacks for adult roles on January 25.

The Festival is also inviting actors to au-

dition for the two other productions this summer, *Butterflies are Free* and *Play On!*. Auditions for these two productions will be held on Saturday, January 24, with call-backs on Sunday, January 25. These two comedies require fourteen players aged early twenties through to sixties in both genders. The characters include:

Butterflies are Free: a romantic comedy in which a young man attempts to escape the overbearing influence of his mother. The cast includes:

Don: Young man early 20s

Jill: Free-spirited hippie, late teens

Mrs. Baker: Don's protective mother

Ralph Austin: A director friend of Jill's

Play On!: The story of a community theatre company as it attempts to mount a production, despite the constant interference of the playwright and infighting among cast and crew. The cast includes (some of the roles can be played by either a man or a woman):

Aggie Manville: A stage manager and prompter

Geraldine: "Gerry" Dunbar, community theatre director

Henry Benish: An aging character actor, 60

Polly Benish: An aging character actress, 60

Marla "Smitty" Smith: A young actor just starting out in her career, 17

Saul Watson: actor, a villain, 45

Billy Carewe: an athletic young man of spirit, 25

Violet Imbry: The not too bright ingénue, 22

Louise Perry: a sound and lighting technician, 35

Phyllis Montague: A novice playwright in the community

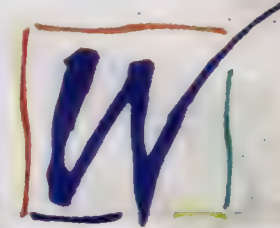
The Festival is also looking for individuals to assist backstage. In pre-production work there is a need for carpenters, painters, seamstresses and others to help before the shows hit the stage. The Festival is also looking for people interested in backstage work including stage managers, assistant stage manager, stage hands, technicians, etc.

To book an audition time and more information, contact Betty Mills at 457-1354. Call the same number if you are interested in assisting with off-stage duties.



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**A Message From Carl Dixon
and the Dixon Family**

To the good people of Haliburton County:
As many of you know, this last year has been difficult for the Dixons, beginning with the time our family was split between here and Australia and then my subsequent, shattering car accident there. Through this past year we have received so many acts of generosity, thoughtfulness and compassion that we are overwhelmed and humbled. Our gratitude to this beautiful community can never be expressed in equal measure to the kindness we've been shown. This is our proclamation to the world that Haliburton County is the greatest place to live, and the people of Haliburton County are the greatest friends and neighbours that you could wish for. Please accept our embrace and enjoy this Christmas and holiday time with people you love. We thank you sincerely and always. Be good to each other.
Love, Carl, Betty, Carlin and Lauren



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Grade 3 students of Mme. Zahab's class from left to right is Trevor Turner, Zachary Shantz, and Parker Smolen, who play their recorders during Thursday's Christmas concert at SBES.

SBES kids exhibit Christmas creativity

MATT JAMES

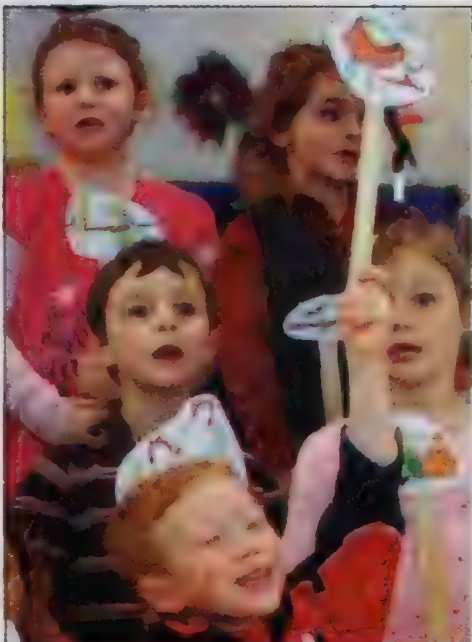
Staff Reporter

Students and staff of Stuart Baker Elementary School's Kindergarten to Grade 3 classes redefined comedy and creativity on December 18 and 19 when the school hosted its annual Christmas concert in the gymnasium in front of a big crowd of parents.

From the comedic opening song and dance skit of Mr. Stephens' Grade 3 class, which featured reindeer on strike, a lawyer, a few jokes and eventually a deal, to the cuteness of kindergarten students reciting Christmas poems, every class showed their stuff. For more photos visit our website photo gallery: www.haliburtonecho.ca



Kayla Bird narrates the opening skit.



Mme. Davis's Grade 1/2 class counts down the 12 Days of Christmas.



Above from left: elfster Derek Rolfe and kindergarten students Fraser Zavitz and Helen Williams.



PHOTOS BY MATT JAMES/ECHO

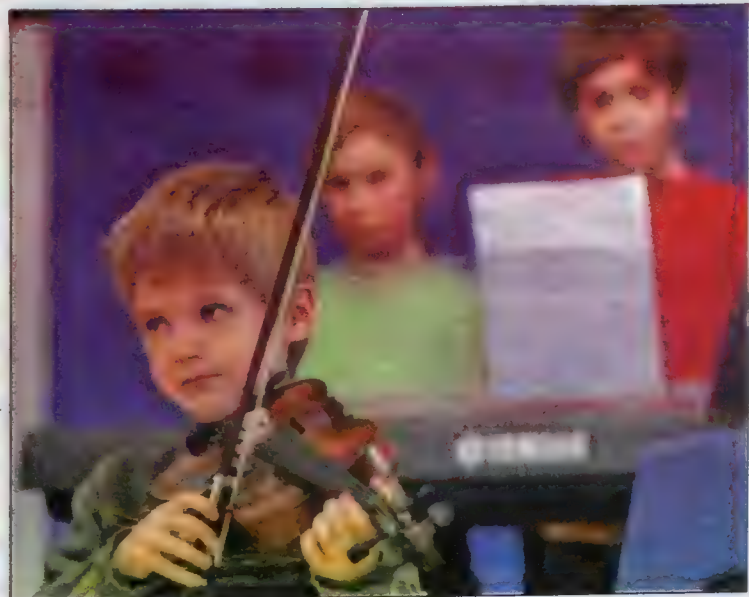
The Grade 2 class of Ms. Kennedy and Mr. Howitt square dance up a storm.



A proud mom waves to her kinder kid.



The Grade 3 class waves their message-revealing gloves.

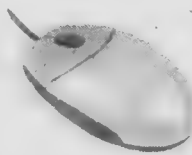


Violinist Eric Wootton joins pianists Emily Klose and Jordan LaPierre.

community calendar

What's happening in the Highlands

NEW!



Post your event for free on the web.
Go to the Haliburton Highlands Community Calendar link at: www.haliburtonecho.ca

CURRENT EVENTS

- December 21: Zion United Church Choir presents More than a Manger – Come join us in Carnarvon at 9 am for our Christmas Cantata, directed by Melissa Stephens. Refreshments to follow.
- December 24: Join us in celebrating the birth of Christ. Services at St. Paul's Anglican Church in Minden – Will be at 4 p.m and 11 p.m. St. Paul's is on the Gull River in Minden, opposite The Beer Store. Call the church office for more information: 286-2541.
- December 29: Join Community Care in the drop in centre at 1 p.m. for Contract Bridge. 457-2941.
- December 31: New Year's Eve Dance – At the Kinmount Legion Hall at 9 p.m. Sponsored by the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 441.
- December 31: Wilberforce Legion Branch 624 is hosting our Annual New Years Celebration – 9-1:30 p.m. Party favors, light lunch, lots of fun. \$35 couple, \$18 single.
- December 31: Last day to register for Community Care's Easy Yoga Fit class. Ida 457-2941. Classes begin January 8th.
- December 31: Last day to register for Community Care's Gentle Exercise Aquasize. Ida 457-2941. Classes begin January 12th.
- January 3: Wilberforce Legion Br #624 Monthly Karaoke – From 9 p.m to 1:30 a.m. Come and sing your favourite song.
- January 5: Ontario Early Years Centre re-opens in Haliburton and Minden
- January 5: Join Community Care in the drop in centre at 1 p.m. for Contract Bridge 457-2941
- January 7: Join Community Care's Diners Club at Win Yeung. Pre-registration required. 457-2941
- January 8: Join Community Care in the drop in centre at 10 a.m. for linedancing. 457-2941
- January 8: Join Community Care in the drop in centre at 1 p.m. for Bid Euchre. 457-2941
- January 8: Join Community Care at 4:30 p.m. for Yoga. Pre-registration required. 457-2941
- January 9: Wilberforce Legion Branch #624 Potluck and Jam Session – Potluck starts at 7 p.m and the jam session starts around 8:30 p.m. Come out and enjoy some great dishes and music after.
- January 9: Join Community Care's Diners Club at Wilberforce Legion. Pre-registration required. 457-2941.
- January 9: Join Community Care in the drop-in centre for Cribbage. 457-2941.
- January 12: Taoist Tai Chi Society - Taoist Tai Chi Society(R) - new classes beginning in Haliburton, Minden and Wilberforce. Please call Brenda at 447-2148 for more information. Taoist Tai Chi(R) is a gentle form of exercise which helps people of all ages to improve their balance, flexibility and strength.
- January 12: Join Community Care's Aquasize program. Pre-registration required. 457-2941
- January 19: Wilberforce Heritage Guild Annual Meeting – Will be held at the Lloyd Watson Centre at 7 p.m. All welcomed. Refreshments
- January 24: Teachings Round the Moon Calendar at the Full Moon – Learn about the moon calendar as Alice Miller has produced a unique 2008 calendar based on the moon cycles and the art of her father, Native artist, Gordon Miller. Join her on the Full Moon at 1032 Cameron Lane, off the Barry Line for a fascinating evening in which she'll shares Native stories, symbolism and traditions depicted in her father's art. \$20 includes a calendar. Call Gaia Centre near West Guilford to register 754-2427.
- January 30: 2009 Taylor Cup Pond Hockey Championships – 4-on-4 pond hockey tournament from January 30 to February 1st at Bayview Wildwood Resort on Sparrow Lake, just north of Orillia in support of the Princess Margaret Hospital Cancer Research Fun. For more info, directions and registration visit www.taylorcup.ca

Events listings are provided **FREE** for non-profit groups on a space-available basis. While we endeavour to accommodate requests for publication, we cannot guarantee that all requests for listings will appear. Requests should be faxed to The Echo at 457-3275, emailed to editor@haliburtonecho.ca, or brought in to the office.

Please submit events by the Thursday prior to the requested publication date.

NOTE: This calendar is not a comprehensive listing of all events taking place in the area. Please check the classified pages, display advertising and articles appearing elsewhere in the Echo for more information on events in the Highlands. For more Ongoing Community Events please see the Weekender.

Christmas carol service warms everyones' hearts

community news

wilberforce

Hilda Clarke
448-2018

Home to the highlands rings true for many this Christmas - home for family gatherings and home to a winter wonderland of snow, snow, snow.

The warmth expected at the annual Christmas carol service at the Essonville Church on Sunday, December 21, won out over the blustery weather. The thoughts of seeing friends and neighbours, hearing the music, singing old familiar carols and hearing the Christmas story drew many out of their homes after a day of heavily falling snow to the historic Christ Church for a fine evening together.

Many from the committee who work to preserve this church were there to again do their part. Ken Noble rang the bell as people assembled. Ken Jones welcomed everyone and gave a brief report of the work accomplished at this special place which has been declared one of the Eight Wonders of Haliburton County. Joanne Coumbs gave the opening prayer. Throughout the evening Paul Way emceed and led the singing. Elsie Lewis accompanied on the faithful old pump organ. Joan Noble read the Christmas Story and a thoughtful poem about Christmas cards. Leslie Finlay's reading of a poem set in the Bethlehem stable over two thousand years ago touched many as they pictured the animals and birds there in silent awe somehow knowing this was a very special happening.

Special guests were Edgar Thatcher and his friend Jamie Campbell who provided wonderful harmonies as they played their guitars and sang seasonal pieces including, appropriately, "Walking In A Winter Wonderland." In a second set they returned with a gentle rendition of Silent Night with Edgar telling of its history. They pleased the congregation with the special piece "Home To The Highlands" written for the Essonville Carol Service three years ago.

How good it is to have Edgar and Sheri, who live much of the year in California, among us again this Christmas. How good to have Jamie whose home base is in the Smith Falls area with us. Edgar, Jamie and their band have performed across the USA, in Europe and many other parts of the world. We welcome them home to our highlands. Don't forget their concert on December 27 at the Lloyd Watson Centre. (See story on page 5 of today's Echo.)

After the sharing of memories related to the Essonville Church Reeve Dave Burton gave a closing prayer and the evening ended with the singing of "Go Tell It On The Mountain." Thanks to all who helped make this a good time. Thanks for the lovely greeting card and Christmas CD. What a delightful reminder of the people and church in Essonville.

Among the Christmas services in the area the one at St. Margaret's Anglican will be at 12 Noon on Wednesday, December 24. The Gooderham and Wilberforce United Churches will have a combined service at 7 p.m. on Christmas Eve at the Gooderham Church.

Best wishes to all for a very happy Christmas to all our readers.

Attention Parents & Grandparents

If your
BABY
was born
in **2008**
it's time to
show them off!!!

Here's how to be included on Tuesday, January 27, 2009

The Haliburton Echo will publish a special page in **full colour** to show off the babies of 2008.

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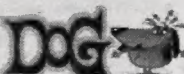
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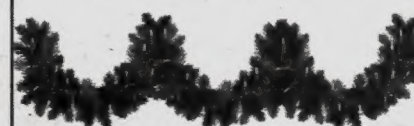
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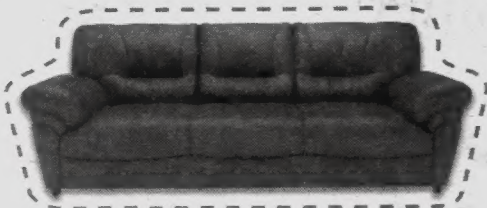
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Announcements

Births

Births



Craig & Erin Sisco of Pefferlaw are proud to announce the birth of their first child

Carter Avery Sisco

Born in Lindsay on November 24th, 2008 at 7:50 pm, weighing 8 lbs, 13 ozs.

Carter is also welcomed with love by grandparents Larry & Cheryl McKnight, Gord & Sally Sisco, Linda & Kim Emmerson, Great grandparents, lots of aunts & uncles, cousin Jack & friends.

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Announcements

Births

Attention Parents & Grandparents

If your
BABY
was born
in **2008**
it's time to
show them off!!!



Carter Avery Sisco
November 24, 2008
8lbs 13 ozs, 22 inches.
in Lindsay
(Ross Memorial)
Craig and Erin Sisco of
Pefferlaw Ontario.

Time is
running
out!

See details
inside this
week's paper.

Call 457-1037
or 286-1288

Births

Obituaries

BATHE, Leeanna Mary - Passed away at her home in Gelert on Saturday, December 20, 2008 with her family close by. At the age of 82.

Loving wife and companion of David for 68 years. Loving mother of Victoria Gould of Whitby, David and Cheryl of Gelert. Loving Granny of Andrew, Matthew, Adam and Eleanor (Christopher). Dear sister of Beverly (Pat) McClosky, Dorrie (Bob) Brown, Jack (Alice) and predeceased by her brother George. Fondly remembered by her nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Friends are invited to visit the family at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Bobcaygeon Rd., P.O. Box 427, Minden KOM 2K0 on Tuesday, December 23, 2008 from 11:00 am until the time of the Memorial Service in the Chapel at 1:00 pm. Reception to follow in the family centre at the funeral home. Cremation has taken place.

Memorial Donations to the St. Paul's Anglican Church or to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF) would be appreciated by the family.

www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

11363423

In memoriam

CASEY, RAY - Who passed away Dec. 23/2005.

*He was someone special,
Who can never be replaced,
His memory in our daily lives,
Can never be erased.
Time cannot steal the memories,
We carry in our hearts,
Or take away the happy years,
Of which he was a part.*

Lovingly remembered by Lorraine, Kenton and April, Darryl, ReNee, Curtis and Shelby-Lynn

11357892

JOHNSON, EDITH - In loving memory of a very dear Mother and Grandmother who passed away December 25, 1994.

*Wonderful memories woven in gold,
This is a picture I tenderly hold.
Deep in my heart, a memory is kept,
To love, cherish, never to forget.*

Forever loved Vicky, Rob, Justin & Alyssa

11365942

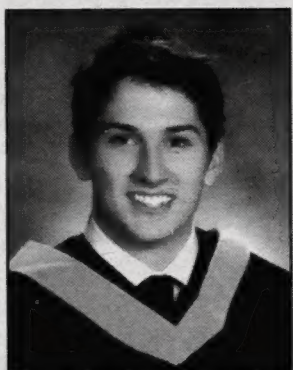
*Down a road that's calm and peaceful,
Guided by God's loving hand,
He has gone upon a journey
To a distant, brighter land.
And although our hearts are heavy
With sorrow we still bear,
It helps to bring us comfort,
Knowing he is happy there.*

Memoriam Verse #2
To remember a loved one with this verse
Call 1-866-541-6757 Today

11283635

Graduations

Graduations



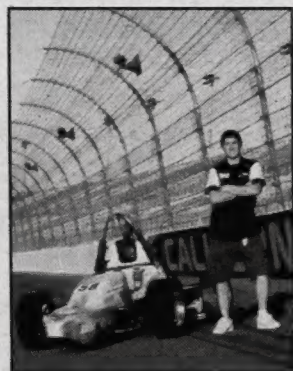
Give a cheer,
Dan's an Engineer!

Daniel Richard Jung graduated with Distinction, from the Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) Mechanical Engineering program, University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT).

The boy who converted an electric golf cart to a gas powered go cart, received first-place honours at the 2008 Innovative Design Engineering Design Competition for his UOIT design team's Formula SAE Car - way to go Dan!

Many people have played a role in shaping Dan's success - We thank you all!

You can find Dan in Bolton, at Athena Marine where he works as a Design Engineer.



Marriages

Marriages

Attention Newlyweds,
Parents & Grandparents

If your Wedding took place in 2008 it's time to show those wonderful photos off!



**Nicole Sisco
&
Jacob Rauche**

Saturday,
September 13th,
2008

Time is
running
out!

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this week's paper.

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December 30th, 1:00 to 3:00 at Wilberforce, Highlands East Arena
December 31st, 11:00 to 1:00 at Minden, S.G. Nesbitt Arena

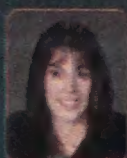
WITH OUR COMPLIMENTS



Troy Austin
Haliburton



Ken Barry
Haliburton



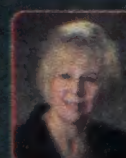
Linda Berlingham
Haliburton



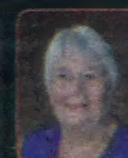
Peter Brady
Haliburton



Geoff Dunn
Haliburton



Deborah Denimo
Haliburton



Madeline Doyle
Haliburton



Vince Ducharme
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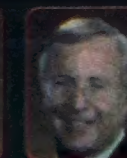
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Marij Plank
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Debra Lunde
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Rich Morris
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Erin Nichols
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Karen Nimigon
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John Parash
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Andy Prastel
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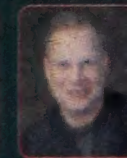
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Andrea Wilson
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Steve Brand
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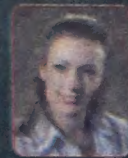
Denise LeBlanc
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Lynda Linton
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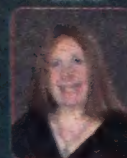
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